

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY CHILDREN'S NETWORK CBO PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

HIGH DESERT PARTNERSHIP FOR KIDS

MISSION/PURPOSE

The High Desert Partnership for Kids is a child-focused consortium, committed to sharing collective knowledge and resources to promote the well being of children in the High Desert.

MEETING MINUTES March 10, 2003

In Attendance:

Jan Myers, Coalition for Justice	(760) 952-3699
Sharon Daniels Full Gospel Church, Child Care Center	(760) 247-2483
Marilea Reese, High-Desert Homeless Services	(760) 245-5991
Socorro Castanon, VVCSC	(760) 943-9646
Beth Koppers, The Sarah Moore Foundation	(760) 366-3537
Dori Abel, The Sarah Moore Foundation	(760) 366-3537
Kathy Lewis, Alpha Connection Youth & Family Services	(760) 247-7930
Cheryl Norton, St. John of God Health Care	(760) 241-4917
Vici Nagel, High Desert Community Coalitions	
Paula Stevens, Apple Valley Outreach	(760) 240-7970
Julilan Weaver, SBCSS	(909) 386-2902
Virginia Barron, SBCSS – State Preschool	(760) 244-6131 X 217
Gloria Esparza, Volunteer's of America – Early Steps	(760) 245-6029
Melanie Regalado, AVUSD Preschool Family Center	(760) 247-2052
Frances Mills, DCS/CPS	(760) 243-6761
Cristine Delara, HSS/DPSS	(760) 955-3505
Cynthia Baker, Oasis Bonding Center	(760) 256-9530
Celia Ormesher, Oasis Bonding Center	(760) 256-9530
Jessica Soto, Headstart in Victorville	(760) 951-3431
Penny Lawrence, High Desert Domestic Violence Program	(760) 843-0701
Kerri Tracy, Hesperia Unified School District	(760) 244-4411 X257
David Corona, Full Gospel Church	(760) 242-9798
Dee Matreyek, Restorative Justice Center	(909) 946-6092
Verne L. Schueiyes, Office of Social Concerns	(909) 885-7101
Dr. Charlotte Naugle	(909) 697-6565 X228
David Saez, Adelanto Community Tool Box	(760) 246-7874
Stacy Iverson, First 5	(909) 386-7706
Pamela Thompson, Loving the Lamb Ministries	(760) 887-4002
Barbara Cook, San Bernardino Sexual Assault Srvs.	(909) 885-8884

Dee Reames-Watkins, Whispering 4 Winds InterTribal	(760) 247-9696
Rosemary Rubalcava, Whispering 4 Winds InterTribal	(760) 961-2181
Katherine Anderson, High Desert Community Services Agency	(760) 242-8005
Michelle Gaona, Catholic Charities	(760) 242-2311 X8454
Valerie Smith, Yucca Loma Family Center	(760) 240-5606
Alex Reedy, Community Health St. Mary Medical Center	(760) 242-2311
Sue Taylor, Children's Network	(909) 387-8966
Mary Grace Gonzalez, Adelanto School District	(760) 246-7337
Sharleen Kruythoff, Keystone Educational Youth Services	(760) 241-8386
Michael Martinez, District Attorney's Office	(909) 891-3308
Mary Jaquish, CBO Partnership Program – Chair	(909) 387-9074
Tammy Williams, Children's Network	(909) 387-5365

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mary welcomed all those present and self-introductions were made. Mary welcomed the presenter Michael Martinez, District Attorney – Community Prosecution.

2. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

No additions or deletions were noted.

3. Approval of March Minutes

There were no corrections or deletions to the minutes. Be sure and review the funding information included in your agenda packets.

4. Guest Speaker Michael Martinez, District Attorney

Mary introduced Michael Martinez who works for the Department of the District Attorney. He has worked as a Deputy District Attorney for the last 25 years. He use to be a prosecuting attorney with a caseload. Now his primary responsibilities are; the lead District Attorney for hate crimes and anti-terrorism, a liaison for the Mexican Consulate and a Community Prosecutor.

Some of the highlights from Michael Martinez presentation were:

- The Community Prosecution program is funded through a Federal Grant, which expires next year.
- The Community Prosecution is more focused on treating symptoms and causes before going to prosecution. (The Broken Windows theory).
- He is stationed at the local Police Substation in San Bernardino by the Smart and Final.
- Michael focuses his work on quality of life issues for the citizens in the worst section of San Bernardino.

- Some quality of life issues are: graffiti; drunk in public, prostitution, drug trafficking, etc.
- It is believed that if some of the smaller quality of life issues can be resolved before going to court for prosecution through resources and collaboration.
- The small problems like graffiti, drunk in public; prostitution, drug trafficking, etc. do cause local businesses loss in money and causes some citizens to move.
- Michael works with the Community Planning Development Board that discusses businesses that go in, such as it is not encouraged for another bar to go in that area of Baseline.
- Michael goes out on search warrants and partners with Code Enforcement as needed.
- Michael walks the streets and drives in the community to give the citizens access to him as well as trying to make his presence felt for the people whom are committing crimes.
- Michael does go to court for community prosecution of cases.
- Michael's goal is to make the area of San Bernardino he covers a nice place to live.
- Michael showed graphs that listed where the following crimes are most seen such as rape, burglaries, and assault; grand theft auto, murder, etc.
- Michael showed some pictures of bad areas in the areas he covers such as "the yellows", litter, abandoned vehicles and homes, etc.
- He also showed some areas where you tell the owners and landlords had pride in the area.
- Initially the Community Prosecution project was slated for Colton and Ontario had a high interest as well.
- As part of Phase One – Michael attends many community forum meetings and just listens to what the citizens have to say.
- As a part of Phase Two – Michael tracks cases, works with the police at the substation, helps cut red tape to get things done, works on long-term solutions to rejuvenate the local community, opens up lines of communication amongst local community groups, etc.
- Michael also had some slides he showed on some positive aspects in San Bernardino County such as; Route 66, California Theater, governmental buildings, the courthouse, Renaissance Fair, etc.
- Basically, the problems cannot be fixed quickly, input and money is needed to solve the problems.

Questions and Comments: Is Community Prosecution practiced anywhere else? Michael mentioned it is a nationwide program. Since September 11th more funding has gone for anti-terrorism programs. The Federal Grant Michael is working from was \$270,000 for implementation which has already been spent. The only funding left now is \$80,000 and once that is gone, the grant is over. The goal is to partner with the city and community business owners.

Another question asked is there any data showing the program has been successful? Michael mentioned that in Portland, Oregon and Manhattan, New York there is proof the program was very successful. Michael mentioned that Community Accountability Boards, and Restorative Justice have been very successful for rehabilitation.

Another question asked was what can be done to assist Michael in his efforts? Michael suggested coming and speaking at community forums to offer information and resources. In May there will be a community faire being sponsored by the Mexican Consulate to serve particularly the Hispanic and undocumented citizens and Michael invited the members to come and display their agencies with brochures, etc. At this May event free fingerprints will be taken as well as numerous vendors. Michael thanked everyone for his or her collaboration and continued partnership.

Additional comments made: There was a statement made about whom could citizens contact about problems with apartments and Section 8 Housing? The response was to **contact Legal Aid at 1-866-889-7328 they have a clinic in Victorville on Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. at 16245 Desert Knoll Dr., across from the Red Cross by the Fairgrounds off of 7th Street.** Michael also mentioned how important partnering is to the community, for instance he goes to the Parole Orientation meeting every Wednesday morning to give the parolees very helpful information along with other community members. Another collaboration Michael participates in is the faith-based group IECAAC.

Another question was asked whom can we write to get another position like yours in the desert? Mike Martinez suggested they could write to their regions' Board of Supervisors, Karen Bell his supervisor, and/or Michael Ramos the District Attorney.

5. Child Abuse Prevention Activities

Sue Taylor from Children's Network discussed the following activities:

- a. Everyone was given a small sample of Child Abuse Prevention materials we currently have available.
- b. April is National Child Abuse Prevention month.
- c. Children's Network is the Child Abuse Prevention Council for San Bernardino County.
- d. There will be once again an aggressive campaign for Child abuse prevention, even though the budget was cut significantly.
- e. The goal is to distribute 500,000 pieces of educational materials during April to parents.
- f. You are welcome to call for more materials at any time.
- g. The materials can be copied and your logo inserted as long as you don't take anything off of the document.
- h. After the Shine the Light Breakfast, satin blue ribbons will be available.

- i. We have available for sale some beautiful lapel pins with blue rhinestones for \$15 each.
- j. The Board of Supervisors proclaiming April as Child Abuse Prevention Month is signing a resolution.
- k. Tickets are still available for the Shine a Light on Child Abuse Awards Breakfast for \$10 each.
- l. The lifetime advocate this year to be honored at the breakfast will be Honorable Patrick Morris.
- m. The Family Celebration Picnics have been cancelled this year due to budget issues and sensitivity to other employees.
- n. The Mojave Team felt the event was worthwhile and is going ahead with their own Family Celebration Picnic on April 5th in Victorville.
- o. The Guasti Team will go ahead and partner with Children's Fund for the Rubber Duck Race on April 26th at Guasti Regional Park. They will be having a family festival along with the duck race.
- p. The Yucaipa group elected not to hold an event this year.
- q. Everyone was encouraged to adopt a duck as 100% of the money raised goes back to children in the county.
- r. Another avenue taken this year was to solicit local businesses in the county that have a family theme and asked them to set aside one day in April to celebrate families. Some tickets have already come in and will be shared with the local CBOs serving families in the county.
- s. The cities throughout the county have been invited to join us in proclaiming April as Child Abuse Prevention month. We have received several proclamations at City Council meetings and shared with them child abuse prevention materials.
- t. Save the date of September 18th for the 17th Annual Children's Network Conference to be held at the Ontario Convention Center. This year there will be new partners for the conference such as First 5, County Superintendent of Schools, Child Development, and the Child Care & Planning Council. The keynote speaker will be Arin Bruel. The cost will be \$99. You will be getting a Save the Date card soon.

6. Handouts and Round Table Discussion

√Mary Jaquish reported: Mary reported there are a number of funding opportunities in your packet and that she e-mails on a weekly basis. Mary suggested if we do not have your correct e-mail address, make sure she or Tammy Williams has it. Mary apologized for sending out the information on the mandatory Bidders Conference for the RFP through JESD. She was not informed, so she sent the information to you as quickly as she got it. The SBC Foundation this month has funded some programs in our area for technology. Mary and Bonnie went to a conference last month in San Diego on the faith-based funding available. **Mary is holding a special faith-based workshop you are invited to attend at 10:30 a.m. right after the regular High Desert Partnership for Kids meeting on April 14th.**

We have available for distribution the brochures and posters for the surrender your baby safely. The brochure lists the addresses of hospitals in the county that babies can be surrendered safely.

√Delia Ormesher of Oasis Bonding Center reported: They have classes to teach mothers nutrition, and child development growth. Child Care is offered while the mothers are in classes. For further information, you can contact them at (760) 256-9530.

√Cynthia Baker of Oasis Bonding Center reported: Cynthia is the Director of the program that covers all of San Bernardino County. The program is quite extensive for 10 days hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The pregnant mothers with children under age 5 can stay at the facility for the 10 days or can get a transportation referral. They are located in Barstow. Then are in the process of expanding their program to single fathers with children under age 5. They will work with the homeless and assist them in finding shelter after the program.

√Cristine Delara of HSS/DPSS for James Moses reported: Cristine is a supervisor in the Child Care division. She reported on the various levels of child care such as: Stage 1 parents are receiving cash aid; Stage 2 parents are getting into the workforce but still need assistance; Stage 3 they are no longer getting cash aid, just getting assistance for child care.

√Francis Mills, DCS/CPS reported: She is here today to learn about resources due to the budget crunch and great need in the community.

√Melanie Regalado of AVUSD Preschool Family Center reported: She had brochures available. They have books and CD Roms available for use by parents. They have sponsored asthma training and provide certificates.

√Gloria Esparza of Volunteers of America – Early Steps reported: They have a home-based child care center for the age group 0 to 3.

√Virginia Barron of SBCSS – State Preschool reported: They have parenting classes available.

√Paula Stevens of Apple Valley Outreach reported: They provide outreach for domestic violence. Through their thrift store they provide shelter and clothes for the homeless. They work with the courts to do restraining orders free of charge.

√Vici Nagel of High Desert Community Coalitions reported: She had a flyer announcing the start of a new faith-based group that will be meeting on March 31 at 9:00 a.m. at the High Desert Youth & Family Resource Center in Victorville. She also had a flyer on the workshop for March 12th on how to work with media in a user friendly way. The hours of the workshop are 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and you can call 951-6236 to make your reservation for the media workshop.

√Cheryl Norton of St. John of God Health Care reported: The Family Celebration Picnic will be on April 5th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Center Street Park at Center Street and Hesperia Road in Victorville. She passed around flyers and table applications.

√Kathy Lewis of Alpha Connection Youth & Family Services reported: Their primary work is with youth from 8 to 17 at 4 group home facilities. The youth are primarily referred from DCS, Probation and Behavioral Health. They provide the youth with housing and 24 hour supervision. They encourage the children to give back to their community by volunteering. They can be reached at (760) 247-7930.

√Beth Koppers of The Sarah Moore Foundation reported: They are in the process of opening up a group home in the Joshua Tree area and are here looking for collaboration and resources.

√Socorro Castanon of VVCSC reported: They work on getting low-income families on medical insurance such as Medi-Cal or the Healthy Families plan through the State. She had flyers on the Human Race event, which is a great fundraiser for the local non-profits and call Kerri Tracy for further details at (760) 244-4411 X257.

√Marilea Reese of the High Desert Homeless Services reported: The homeless shelter is located behind the Target in Palmdale. They get some funding for their non-profit through First 5. They serve families with children 0 to 5 so they do not provide shelter for domestic violence and drug/alcohol abuse.

√Sharon Daniels of Full Gospel Church, Child Care Center reported: They plan to have their childcare center up and running by the fall. She is here to gather information.

√Jan Myers of Coalition for Justice reported: Jan had flyers on their services. They provide services to parents at home to assist them with English and preparing for citizenship. They assist the parents whom are having difficulty with their children in school. Their services are free, and if you can support them please call (760) 952-3699.

√Pamela Thompson of Loving the Lamb Ministries reported: They are a non-profit offering counseling and a safe haven for those with severe trauma from satanically abuse.

√Stacy Iverson of First 5 reported: They are in the process of the Strategic Planning for the funding of 0 to 5 programs throughout the county. Their plan is broken down into 6 regions for the county.

Anyone is invited to come to the community forums to voice their needs. The next meeting is **March 24th at 7:00 p.m. at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center in Apple Valley.**

√David Saez of the Adelanto Community Tool Box reported: The youth are busy organizing their group. One activity the youth are doing is to build ramps for the disabled. Latino women are being taught cardio risk factors. The Neighborhood Academy comprised of youth and adults is moving forward to plan their focus and activities this year. They can be reached at (760) 246-7874.

√Dr. Charlotte Naugle reported: She is involved with violence prevention in the schools in the high desert specifically Adelanto and Apple Valley for a fee. They have a program in Riverside as well. She can be contacted at (909) 697-6565 X228.

√Verne Schueiges of the Office of Social Concerns reported: They are not a direct service provider for the Roman Catholic church. They collaborate with the IECAAC, the high desert restorative justice, and etc. for the community. They help through restorative justice by focusing on the healing of the victims and offenders. Meetings are set-up where the victim can vent and have a say about what happened to them. The offender is held accountable and must take responsibility for their actions. They held 3 conferences last year and look forward to collaborating more with local agencies.

√Kerri Tracy of the Hesperia Unified School District reported: Kerri reported this year she is working with the 12 elementary schools in the Hesperia Unified School District helping the children and their families with resources, but the funding was cut for next through the TAD (Transitional Aid Department). She asked the group about where she could get clothing donations. Next year she will be working with the junior and senior high school students providing them with many resources, referrals, and activities. If you can be of assistance, please contact her at (760) 244-4411 X257.

√Jessica Soto of Headstart in Victorville reported: They are currently accepting applications for 3 to 5 years old for the school year of 2003/2004. She passed around a flyer on their Head Start annual conference. The event is on April 5th and all agencies are welcome to come and set up a booth. For further details they can be reached at (760) 951-3431.

√Barbara Cook of San Bernardino Sexual Assault Services reported: They have satellite offices in Victorville, Fontana, High grove etc. The most unreported rape is the 7 to 19 year olds. They can provide school onsite counseling. They have a Children Specialist that works with the 0 to 5 age group. They do have some equipment and a training facility. They do have a counselor that targets fathers. They are located at 8285 Sierra Ave. in Fontana (909) 885-8884 and in Victorville at 1534 Anacopa Road (760) 952-0041.

√Dee Reames – Watkins of Whispering 4 Winds Inter Tribal reported: They are a non-profit located in the high desert that handles all cultural. She is here today to learn about resources and collaborate.

They plan next year to work with; the judicial system, elder program, social services, and organizations to assist them with donations for food and clothing. They can be reached at (760) 247-9696.

√St. Marys reported: At St. Marys children receive health an immunizations through a mobile health van on Mondays (760) 242-2311 X8223. They also work with the Healthy Beginnings for prenatal care of the low and high risk through educational classes. They have an onsite staff nutritionist as well. For further information they can be reached at (760) 242-2311 X8454.

√Sue Taylor of Children's Network reported: The Children's Fund Duck Race is on April 26th at the Guasti Regional Park in Ontario. Vendors are encouraged to put up a table at the Family Festival on April 26th from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Sue referred everyone to the flyer in his or her packets.

√Tammy Williams of Children's Network reported: Cal-State is having a multi disciplinary case management conference on May 15th – more details to follow.

Mary Jaquish mentioned that each collaborative will have the same guest speaker. The difference is a local agency will also be highlighted at the meeting. If you would like your agency to present, please let Mary or Tammy know.

7. Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, April 14, 2003, at 9:00 a.m. at the Desert Mountain Educational Center, 17800 Outer Highway 18, Apple Valley.**

Respectfully submitted,

TAMMY WILLIAMS, Recording Secretary
Children's Network

/tgw